

## INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT TASK FORCE

### MEETING

JUNE 27, 2006 LITTLETON, NH

Members present:

Kurt Lucas, Littleton Regional Hospital, Jeanne Erickson, Speare Memorial Hospital; Kim Thayer, Littleton Regional Hospital, Scott Lancaster, Gorham EMS, Ed Laverty, UCVH, Clay Odell, NHBEMS;

- Clay apologized for forgetting to send out confirmation notice of today's meeting earlier. He has heard from several members that will not be able to attend today as a result.
- Clay introduced the group to a series of reports issued by the National Academies of Science Institute of Medicine that examined the state of emergency care in the US. There were three reports from the IOM: hospital-based emergency care, prehospital EMS and EMS for children. Each of these reports is around two hundred pages. Clay distributed the two-page fact sheet that summarized the key findings and recommendations. He stressed that as leaders in the EMS community in NH, members of the IFT TF should familiarize themselves with the documents, particularly the executive summary of the prehospital report "Emergency Medical Services at the Crossroads" (which is available at: [http://www.nap.edu/execsumm\\_pdf/11629.pdf](http://www.nap.edu/execsumm_pdf/11629.pdf) ). Additional information on all the documents may be found at the IOM website at [www.iom.edu/emergencycare](http://www.iom.edu/emergencycare) .
- Clay also reported that the final version of the NHTSA document, "Interfacility Transport Guide" is now available. It is a fifty-six page document that Clay will distribute to the group by mail. Clay strongly encourages all members of the IFT TF to read the document thoroughly, as it is important to have an idea of the national perspective on interfacility transport.
- The group discussed the status of the local action committees that were called for at the NH IFT Summit II in March. These committees are charged with reviewing the plans drafted by the IFT Task Force and make plans to implement those plans at the local (hospital catchment area) level. In addition these committees are to implement the IFT data collection study. In reality the only local area that has made any progress is Littleton. Clay will contact members of the IFT TF to put a higher emphasis on organizing these committees.
- The IFT TF is still interested in collecting data. The target date for that effort is now beginning August 1, 2006 and ending October 30, 2006. Clay will work with IFT TF members that are likely contacts with their local hospital to get this project moving.
- There was a discussion about an electronic clearinghouse to share information about ambulance availability. This is a project that was discussed as a likely initiative for the IFT TF to pick up this year. Clay has done some research on the concept, including the "Web EOC" program that the Bureau of Emergency Management has.

Before proceeding further though, Clay would like to have consensus from the group that ambulance services would consistently provide information to the program, multiple times in a day. Clay sees this as being problematic in that it would add to the workload of the dispatchers or duty crews. This topic will be explored more thoroughly at future meetings.

- Clay briefly reported on the Interfacility Transport Protocols Subcommittee that has been meeting to revise the current protocols. He will continue to keep the Task Force advised as that process moves along.
- At the next meeting of the IFT Task Force, the group should review the areas of concern and brainstorming session from the 2005 Interfacility Transport Summit as the Task Force moves forward.

The next meeting of the Interfacility Transport Task Force will be Tuesday July 25, 2006 from 10:00 to noon at Littleton Regional Hospital. The IFT Task Force thanks Littleton Regional Hospital once again for their generous donation of meeting space and food to support this effort.